A 88.16/4 24/26

Market News

Issued LIVESTOCK DIVISION Weekly

MARKET REVIEWS AND STATISTICS

Vol. 24, No. 26 June 26, 1956

Week ended June 23

	Page
Livestock Market Reviews	508
Livestock Market Receipts	510
Feeder and Stocker Statistics	510
Steer Sale Statistics	511
Estimated Slaughter and Meat Production	512
Slaughter at Major Centers	513
Estimated Percentage of Feeder and Stocker Cattle and Slaughter Cows in Salable Receipts	513
Cattle Prices	514
Hog Prices	515
Hog Purchase Statistics	516
Sheep and Lamb Prices	517
Wholesale Meat Trade Reviews	518
Wholesale Meat Prices	520
Wool Market Review	521

Special to this issue

Pig Crop Report, June 1956	522
Storage Holdings of Meats and Lard, May 31, 1956	524
United States Federally Inspected Slaughter and Meat Production, May 1956	525
Classification of Livestock Slaughtered in the United States, May 1956	526

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK DIVISION
Washington 25, D. C.

Cattle receipts at the 12 markets were 3% smaller than a week ago, but 13% larger than a year ago. Lower dressed beef prices and continued hot weather in the midwest influenced 50¢-$1.00 downturns on fed steers and heifers. Cow receipts increased and prices were 50¢-$1.50 lower. Continued hot and dry weather influenced an increased movement of stockers and feeders and these closed 50¢-$1.00 off, some points showing declines of $2.00-3.00. Good-Choice fed steers bulked at most midwest terminals from $17.50-21.00. Hog receipts decreased, however, hot weather and $3.00-7.00 lower prices on fresh pork loins were depressing factors in the hog trade and butcher hogs closed 50¢-$1.00 lower for the week. Bulk of the 180-240# butchers at Corn Belt terminals sold on Friday from $15.75-16.50. Spring lambs closed from $1.50-3.50 lower.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES

Price losses were the general rule at practically all major terminal markets on most classes and grades of slaughter cattle. The declines reflected severe downturns posted in a sluggish wholesale meat trade at major distributive markets and an increased marketward movement of lighter weight steers, heifers and cows of lower grades from dry areas throughout much of the western Corn Belt region. Losses on slaughter steers for the most part ranged 50¢-$1.00 with the maximum declines generally posted on offerings under 1100# and lighter grading for the most part average-Choice and down. Infrequent exceptions to the rule were displayed at Chicago where a few loads of high-Choice and Prime under 1350# and down finished steady with a similar trend on such cattle prevailing at Sioux City and Omaha. Most markets reported an increased showing of heifers, with declines mostly 50¢-$1.00 off. Generally, heifers around 875# maintained the best selling position and the maximum declines accrued to an increased showing of lighter weights. Although 12 market supplies of cattle were down only around 3% from a week ago, the run showed an increased proportion of cows and stockers and feeders. The run of slaughter steers and heifers consequently was reduced to a greater extent than over-all receipts would indicate. However, total marketings were around 30,000 head above the same week last year.

The effects of continued hot weather were especially pronounced in the cow trade. South St. Joseph reported the largest weekly cow run since June of 1948. At Kansas City and St. Paul cow supplies were the largest since last fall and expanded receipts were noted at practically all other points. Price losses of 50¢-$1.00 were common with declines of $1.50 at Kansas City to as much as $2.00 at Chicago reported on Canners and Cutters. Bull prices ranged 25¢-50¢ lower to steady to 50¢ higher with the latter trends most common.

At Chicago a few loads of Prime 1075-1350# steers cleared at $22.75-23.50 with a load Prime 1523# averages $22.50. At other terminals high-Choice and Prime steers were noted at $20.50-21.25 with scattered transactions $21.50-22.00. Good and Choice ranged $17.00-20.00. Most Good and Choice heifers ranged around $16.50-19.50 with high-Choice $20.00-20.50 and scattered sales Prime up to $22.00-22.50 at Chicago. Downturns of $1.00-3.00 prevailed on vealers and calves. Good and Choice closed at $15.00-19.00, up to $20.00 at Chicago with some Prime early up to $22.00 and above.

STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES

Marketings of stocker and feeder cattle and calves at terminal markets were not large but even so were noticeably larger than the seasonally moderate numbers marketed a year ago. In a few areas, such as western Kansas and localized spots in Nebraska, continued dry weather forced the movement of some cattle to market. However, the number forced to move because of drouth conditions was relatively small and, even though varying degrees of moisture deficiencies exist in much of the western half of the country there seems little likelihood that dry weather will force large scale marketings at least in the near future. However, relatively unfavorable weather conditions together with recent declines in fat cattle prices tended to intensify the seasonal slow down in demand for stockers and feeders which usually develope during the latter part of June. Trading at both terminal markets and country points was slow throughout the week at unevenly steady to $1.00 lower prices. Common, Medium and low-Good stockers, both calves and yearlings, were hardest to move and such offerings sold as much as $2.00 lower with a few extremes $3.00 off. Quality generally was at a seasonally low level, kinds grading better than average-Good being in a decided minority. Feeder steers 800# up were in relatively

small supply. The average cost of the steer shipments from Kansas City at $16.46 was $1.18 under the previous week and was $2.60 lower than a year ago. Meanwhile, the average price of all slaughter steers at that market was only $1.66 under a year ago. Thus, with the price relationship between fats and feeders more favorable than a year ago, demand for feed-lot replacements was more dependable than that which existed for stockers. Even so, feeders also shared in the week's downtrend with buyers made cautious not only because of declines in fat cattle prices and high prices of feed but also by memories of the previous season's unprofitable feeding operations. Good and Choice feeder steers 800# up sold from $16.00-19.00, kinds above $18.00 generally carrying considerable flesh. A few Choice yearling stock steers brought $18.50-19.50 but majority of the yearlings were Medium and Good grades from $13.00-18.00.

HOGS

Liberal receipts, hot weather, and a sluggish wholesale fresh pork trade were depressing influences on the hog trade during the forepart of the week and prices declined sharply to carry quotations at many markets to the lowest point since the forepart of May. Marketings slowed down late in the period, however, and a small part of the early downturn was recovered. For the week barrows and gilts were 25¢-$1.25 lower, mostly 50¢-$1.00 off. Sows were 25¢-$1.25 lower, some extremely heavy sows as much as $1.75 down. Packers worked pretty much on a hand-to-mouth basis, appearing interested mainly in filling minimum hour requirements, and poor shipping demand at many markets also contributed to the generally slow trade. Receipts were 8 to 9 % smaller than in the preceding week but around 15% larger than a year earlier, and largest for this particular week in five years. Bulk of butchers on sale consisted of 190-260# weights with both heavier and lighter weights rather scarce except for a modest offering of 160-190# weights in parts of the Southern Corn Belt. Butchers were offered usually in mixed grades U. S. No. 1 to 3 with the number of straight lots of No. 1 and 2 small. Weights continued light, the average of barrows and gilts in the midwest being slightly over 220#. Sows ran 10 to 15% of receipts in the Eastern and Southern Corn Belt but otherwise 36 to 39% with Sioux City reporting 44% sows.

Feeder pigs closed 50¢-$1.00 lower at Sioux City, Good and Choice 120-160# $13.00-13.50. Most sales at S. St. Paul 50¢ lower at $14.50-15.00. Prices at Memphis were 50¢-$1.00 lower, Medium and Good 70-140# feeder pigs bringing $10.50-11.50 with a few Choice at $12.00.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Further declines of $1.00-3.50 were enforced on the bulk of the slaughter lambs at midwest markets even though receipts at the 12 main terminals were more than 20 percent smaller than last week and about as small as for any week since last August. A large part of the drop in receipts was a result of a 40 percent decrease in marketings at Fort Worth. Continued severe pressure on wholesale dressed lamb prices was again the main bearish factor in the trade. Ewes sold steady to 50¢ lower, while declines on feeder lambs ranged from 25-50¢ at Kansas City to $1.50-2.00 at Fort Worth. At the latter point spring lambs comprised less than 50 percent of receipts, but at other points they made up the bulk. Early Monday a few Choice and Prime spring lambs brought $26.00-27.00 at Chicago, but that was no criterion of the general market as bulk sales were at $22.00-24.00 and the late week bulk on Good to Prime grades was $20.00-23.00. Elsewhere Good to Prime lambs brought $18.00-23.50, with the late market $21.00 down. Cull lambs sold downwards to $10.00 and below. Good and Choice old crop shorn lambs and yearlings at Fort Worth bulked at $17.00-17.50, with other points reporting $15.00-19.50. Cull to Choice shorn slaughter ewes sold at $2.00-5.00, while breeding ewes brought $5.00-12.00, the latter price for two and three-year-olds. Good and Choice feeder lambs sold upwards to $20.50.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW

At most western terminal markets slaughter steer, heifer and cow prices held steady, although turned 50¢-$1.00 lower at Denver when influenced by the break in the Eastern beef trade, vealers and slaughter calves steady to $1.00 lower, stocker and feeder classes steady to weak. The sharp downturn in pork loins and dressed lamb reflected declines of 25-$1.00 in barrows and gilts and $2.00-3.50 in slaughter spring lambs.

Low to high-Choice including some Prime fed steers up to around 1200# ranged from $20.00-22.50, mainly $21.00 upward at most western markets. Good steers $17.50-21.00, but mainly $19.00 up in the far west. Low to high-Choice heifers to around 900# $19.00-21.00, Good heifers $17.00-19.00. Utility and Commercial cows bulked from $10.00-14.00, Canners and Cutters

Continued on page 517.

WEEKLY RECEIPTS OF SALABLE LIVESTOCK AT 12 PUBLIC MARKETS

Market	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep	
	June 23 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 25 1955
Chicago	42,054	39,636	2,407	1,696	36,119	42,688	5,003	4,945
Cincinnati	4,764	4,293	1,186	1,321	14,055	10,594	2,316	2,391
Denver	13,255	11,435	441	407	3,041	2,562	3,352	4,109
Fort Worth	25,570	17,012	5,431	4,006	3,352	2,584	21,285	27,625
Indianapolis	8,803	6,820	1,402	1,142	38,957	27,351	2,291	2,471
Kansas City	21,755	15,643	2,144	1,579	10,617	6,275	8,325	7,966
Oklahoma City	20,219	16,151	2,251	2,329	4,890	3,091	3,432	4,244
Omaha	40,511	39,346	1,653	839	35,000	37,646	8,104	10,425
St. Joseph	16,192	13,541	1,803	1,223	24,881	21,719	6,942	9,197
St. Louis NSY	18,599	16,448	4,266	3,818	52,814	34,950	7,040	8,373
Sioux City	21,920	23,335	863	133	24,492	27,447	3,273	2,160
S. St. Paul	17,894	18,230	6,257	6,451	39,605	42,038	2,250	2,769
Total	251,536	221,890	30,104	24,944	287,923	258,945	73,613	86,675
June 16, 1956	260,491		26,872		300,258		93,803	

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

Week ended:	Hogs	Sheep
June 23, 1956	225,000	21,100
June 16, 1956	265,500	23,600
June 25, 1955	189,000	28,200

FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

	Week ended			Month		Five months	
	June 21 1956	June 14 1956	June 23 1955	May 1956	May 1955	Jan. - May 1956	Jan. - May 1955
Steers - 1001# up	133	298	286	1,367	2,107	8,302	13,062
901-1000	449	546	580	3,341	4,842	26,383	39,412
801-900	1,827	1,734	1,385	8,747	7,646	54,880	59,633
701-800	3,105	2,710	2,283	14,182	13,229	69,581	69,119
501-700	10,416	9,335	7,617	41,098	41,101	187,115	200,452
Total steers 10 mkts.	15,930	14,623	12,151	68,735	68,925	346,261	381,678
Av. wts. " " "	663#	676#	675#	686#	692#	704#	714#
Av. cost* " " "	$16.00	$16.88	$18.85	$16.98	$18.95	$16.86	$19.93
" " " Chicago	17.77	18.37	20.44	17.93	20.33	17.49	20.31
" " " Ks. City	16.46	17.64	19.06	17.68	20.01	17.41	20.74
" " " Omaha	16.14	16.77	19.27	16.95	18.51	16.72	19.86
" " " S. St. Paul	16.60	17.68	18.53	16.05	17.23	15.58	18.09
" " " Sioux City	16.07	18.15	19.78	17.78	19.63	17.20	20.35
" " " Denver	16.84	17.85	21.97	17.78	20.17	17.40	21.59
" " " Ft. Worth	14.81	15.56	17.74	15.68	17.58	16.25	18.74
" " " Okla. City	14.98	16.04	17.10	15.72	17.45	16.14	18.82
" " " S. St. Joseph	15.79	16.16	18.07	16.48	18.44	16.53	19.67
" " " Natl. Stk. Yds.	16.18	17.13	17.43	16.95	18.49	16.46	18.88
Total calves-10 mkts.	9,545	8,459	6,131	26,322	28,552	117,892	153,845
" cows. heifers, bulls- " "	6,456	3,792	2,929	20,116	19,681	69,644	83,474

* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	June			June			June			June		
	21 1956	14 1956	23 1955	21 1956	14 1956	23 1955	21 1956	14 1956	23 1955	21 1956	14 1956	23 1955
CHICAGO												
Prime	3026	2430	2832	10.9	7.1	10.3	1264	1312	1254	22.06	22.37	23.81
Choice	18508	23015	18714	66.9	67.4	68.3	1151	1183	1135	20.69	21.16	22.36
Good	5421	8117	5149	19.6	23.8	18.8	1010	1015	1009	19.00	19.55	20.26
Standard	608	529	--	2.2	1.5	--	872	896	--	16.74	17.04	--
Com'l.	15	--	635	.1	--	2.3	1081	--	982	15.50	--	17.48
Utility	97	81	83	.3	.2	.3	818	846	923	14.74	14.80	14.60
All grades	27675	34172	27413				1128	1147	1119	20.48	20.86	22.05
OMAHA 1/												
Prime	153	211	221	.9	1.0	1.2	1286	1336	1192	21.38	21.29	22.66
Choice	11351	15161	11069	70.2	71.7	61.7	1118	1137	1096	19.63	20.14	21.19
Good	4056	5028	5530	25.1	23.8	30.8	981	1011	999	17.90	18.33	19.39
Standard	500	565	--	3.1	2.7	--	893	924	--	15.40	15.76	--
Com'l.	--	--	982	--	--	5.5	--	--	925	--	--	17.03
Utility	118	184	138	.7	.8	.8	867	847	894	13.53	13.84	15.07
All grades	16178	21149	17940				1077	1101	1057	19.11	19.62	20.44
SIOUX CITY 1/												
Prime	40	68	18	.5	.6	.2	1267	1223	1093	20.84	21.41	23.00
Choice	4933	7512	6160	58.7	67.8	60.6	1139	1146	1105	19.79	20.07	21.28
Good	3105	3070	3447	36.9	27.7	33.9	976	997	1021	18.26	18.88	19.81
Standard	254	372	--	3.0	3.4	--	908	920	--	16.22	16.74	--
Com'l.	--	--	441	--	--	4.3	--	--	951	--	--	17.01
Utility	77	54	99	.9	.5	1.0	846	845	1006	14.05	14.56	15.44
All grades	8409	11076	10165				1070	1096	1069	19.15	19.66	20.59
KANSAS CITY 1/												
Prime	108	207	157	1.9	3.2	3.6	1200	1206	1189	21.38	22.10	23.05
Choice	2868	3146	2156	52.1	47.9	49.7	1087	1136	1161	20.34	20.85	22.14
Good	1857	2776	1650	33.8	42.3	38.0	995	984	1034	18.65	19.39	20.02
Standard	583	356	--	10.6	5.4	--	884	832	--	16.38	16.56	--
Com'l.	--	--	305	--	--	7.0	--	--	983	--	--	17.22
Utility	86	80	73	1.6	1.2	1.7	875	886	912	12.51	13.63	15.48
All grades	5502	6565	4341				1033	1054	1097	19.35	20.06	21.01
ST. LOUIS NSY 1/												
Prime	--	42	65	--	.7	1.7	--	1124	1046	--	22.07	23.77
Choice	2185	2995	1820	38.2	51.8	46.1	1048	1081	1034	20.27	20.69	22.03
Good	2333	1852	1301	40.8	32.0	33.0	988	983	948	19.18	19.27	20.10
Standard	1007	787	--	17.6	13.6	--	918	920	--	17.37	17.31	--
Com'l.	--	31	558	--	.6	14.1	--	1118	882	--	17.88	17.78
Utility	196	75	200	3.4	1.3	5.1	901	850	777	14.82	14.75	15.54
All grades	5721	5782	3944				996	1025	971	19.19	19.77	20.63
S. ST. JOSEPH 1/												
Prime	29	93	9	.5	1.4	.2	1311	1284	1138	20.64	21.10	23.25
Choice	2907	3157	2578	54.2	49.5	49.6	1101	1130	1130	20.16	20.68	21.98
Good	1997	2606	2185	37.3	40.8	42.0	1045	1037	1036	18.50	19.08	20.08
Standard	299	376	--	5.6	5.9	--	916	906	--	16.01	16.39	--
Com'l.	--	--	407	--	--	7.8	--	--	979	--	--	17.15
Utility	129	150	19	2.4	2.4	.4	805	853	845	13.59	13.88	14.19
All grades	5361	6382	5198				1064	1075	1077	19.24	19.72	20.85

Continued

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	June 21 1956	June 14 1956	June 23 1955	June 21 1956	June 14 1956	June 23 1955	June 21 1956	June 14 1956	June 23 1955	June 21 1956	June 14 1956	June 23 1955
DENVER 1/												
Prime	16	--	34	.3	--	.6	1328	--	1080	21.00	--	23.40
Choice	4648	5771	5164	80.4	74.5	85.1	1146	1152	1123	20.50	20.85	22.47
Good	1020	1830	837	17.6	23.6	13.8	1084	1066	1067	19.04	19.71	20.56
Standard	73	110	--	1.3	1.4	--	1031	1200	--	15.56	17.13	--
Com'l.	--	--	29	--	--	.5	--	--	973	--	--	16.25
Utility	23	40	--	.4	.5	--	968	852	--	14.00	12.50	--
All grades	5780	7751	6064				1133	1131	1114	20.17	20.51	22.20

1/ These summaries developed from data collected on marketings of fed cattle by the Agricultural Estimates Division.

ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Week ended	Beef		Veal		Pork (excl. lard)		Lamb and mutton		Total meat prod.	Total lard prod.
	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.		
	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	mil. lb.	mil. lb.
June 23, 1956	385	213.3	141	18.6	997	140.7	251	11.0	383.6	--
June 16, 1956	407	223.8	147	19.4	1,040	146.7	269	12.1	402.0	--
June 9, 1956 1/	385	--	140	--	1,025	--	246	--	--	37.3
June 25, 1955	358	190.1	130	17.1	806	120.9	255	10.9	339.0	30.6
Percentage change from:										
June 16, 1956	-5	-5	-4	-4	-4	-4	-7	-9	-5	--
June 25, 1955	+8	+12	+8	+9	+24	+16	-2	+1	+13	--

Week ended	Average weights (lb.)								Lard yield per 100 lb.
	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs		
	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed 2/	Live	Dressed	
June 23, 1956	990	554	240	132	252	141	90	44	--
June 16, 1956	990	550	240	132	251	141	92	45	--
June 9, 1956	990	550	235	129	250	140	94	46	--
June 25, 1955	958	531	236	132	267	150	89	43	14.2

1/ Actual slaughter.
2/ Excludes lard.

WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

City or Area	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs	
	June 23 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 25 1955
Boston, New York City Area..	13,519	12,105	12,321	12,205	42,282	34,597	45,229	44,309
Baltimore, Philadelphia.....	7,655	7,828	1,423	1,423	24,356	18,229	2,987	2,559
Cin.,Cleve.,Detroit,Indpls..	17,224	15,362	9,336	5,621	86,046	57,163	17,546	12,422
Chicago Area.....	24,812	24,846	7,554	6,591	45,328	46,247	5,287	7,288
St. Paul-Wisc. Areas.....	29,156	27,432	18,722	18,623	75,278	68,713	6,077	6,266
St. Louis Area.....	16,324	14,981	6,365	7,078	71,856	45,347	13,098	11,597
Omaha Area.....	32,884	31,431	1,051	692	62,578	50,616	8,630	13,428
Kansas City.....	16,982	14,867	4,253	3,774	23,145	19,859	10,352	9,979
Iowa-So. Minnesota 1/.....	41,965	36,267	11,769	10,467	229,878	204,741	25,366	30,097
Lou'l.Evan'l.Nash'l.Mph's...	10,614	10,472	10,345	10,367	42,499	29,672	2/	2/
Georgia-Alabama Area.....	6,922	10,685	4,071	5,003	22,788	12,843	2/	2/
St. Jo'ph.Wichita,Okla.City.	20,644	18,380	6,054	4,058	41,303	28,524	13,698	13,225
Ft.Worth, Dallas,San Antonio	22,701	21,471	9,695	8,268	12,664	9,886	25,142	22,422
Denver,Ogden,Salt Lake City.	17,446	15,413	860	431	14,126	10,068	17,126	13,529
Los Angeles,San Fran.Areas..	26,270	27,724	3,689	3,702	31,363	26,127	27,844	32,705
Portland,Seattle,Spokane....	8,219	7,473	1,224	861	15,095	9,413	6,579	9,067
Total.....	313,337	296,737	108,732	99,164	840,585	672,045	224,961	228,893
Accumulation to date.....	7,495,418	7,202,259	2,613,796	2,630,938	27,431,902	23,081,202	5,906,949	6,141,555

1/ Includes Sioux City. 2/ Not available.

* Revised on account of change in Los Angeles San Francisco figures

ESTIMATED PERCENT OF FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

Week ended	Chicago	Kansas City	Omaha	S. St. Joseph	St.Louis NSY	Sioux City	S. St. Paul	Indian-apolis	Denver	Fort Worth	Okla. City	Wichita	San Antonio
Feeders and stockers													
June 22, 1956	8	28	10	12	5	17	5	17	7	60	40	30	30
June 15, 1956	3	25	7	7	4	13	5	8	7	55	38	20	35
June 24, 1955	3	19	8	9	5	12	5	8	7	30	65	26	40
Slaughter cows													
June 22, 1956	4	22	17	28	26	15	40	16	15	25	20	35	40
June 15, 1956	5	14	13	20	20	10	35	10	10	25	20	29	45
June 24, 1955	10	23	10	23	25	8	30	22	12	40	20	34	45

CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Kansas City			Omaha		
	23 1956	June 16 1956	25 1955	23 1956	June 16 1956	25 1955	23 1956	June 16 1956	25 1955
Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers									
Steers -									
Prime 900-1100#	22.58	22.80	24.62	21.98	22.55	23.82	22.22	22.52	23.55
1100-1300	22.55	22.80	24.40	21.62	22.35	23.82	21.92	22.20	23.25
Choice 900-1100	20.62	21.28	22.70	20.35	20.98	22.20	19.98	20.45	21.45
1100-1300	20.60	21.20	22.40	20.28	20.98	22.00	20.02	20.20	21.20
Good 900-1100	18.58	19.25	19.95	18.28	18.72	19.82	17.30	17.88	19.25
Standard-All wts.	16.42	16.70	--	15.92	16.22	--	15.15	15.65	--
Heifers -									
Prime 600-800#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice " "	20.20	21.00	21.75	19.95	20.50	21.72	19.40	20.12	21.30
Good 500-900	18.08	18.95	19.68	17.36	18.15	19.29	17.04	17.78	19.12
Standard-All wts.	15.68	16.22	--	14.70	15.65	--	14.82	15.45	--
Cows - All weights									
Commercial	13.10	13.80	14.02	12.48	13.10	13.88	12.00	12.68	13.82
Utility	11.90	12.80	12.45	11.10	12.10	11.62	10.88	11.62	12.15
Canner & Cutter	10.48	11.68	10.82	9.62	10.80	9.65	9.38	10.15	10.55
Bulls - All weights -									
Utility & Commercial	15.50	15.32	15.85	13.50	13.60	13.48	13.51	13.68	13.75
Calves - 500# down -									
Choice 1/	16.80	18.90	19.10	15.95	16.95	19.00	15.00	17.10	18.50
Com'l. & Good	13.60	15.80	15.80	13.22	14.40	15.50	12.50	14.00	14.50
Vealers - All weights -									
Choice & Prime	20.20	21.80	22.40	16.95	19.10	19.60	16.88	19.25	20.75
Com'l. & Good	16.55	18.55	18.50	14.02	16.15	15.90	13.00	15.08	16.25
Feeder and stocker cattle and calves									
Steers -									
Choice 500-800#	20.08	20.25	22.38	19.32	19.82	23.00	18.60	19.42	22.38
Good " "	17.78	18.00	20.50	17.00	17.78	20.75	16.60	17.38	20.38
Medium 500-1000	15.65	15.88	17.25	14.25	15.25	17.30	14.20	14.72	17.50
Heifers -									
Choice 500-750	17.62	17.75	19.00	17.52	18.00	18.65	16.90	17.72	19.12
Med. & Gd. " "	15.20	15.25	16.00	14.48	15.25	15.65	14.30	15.22	15.75
Cows - All weights -									
Medium & Good	--	--	--	10.05	10.75	11.00	10.25	11.00	11.75
Calves - 300-500# -									
Steers -									
Good & Choice	19.90	20.50	21.50	18.00	19.20	22.25	17.75	18.65	21.50
Heifers -									
Good & Choice	17.65	18.00	18.50	16.70	17.20	18.50	15.75	16.35	18.25

1/ Grade classification was Choice and Prime prior to June 1, 1956.

HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Interior Iowa and southern Minnesota			Indianapolis		
	June 23 1956	June 16 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 16 1956	June 25 1955	June 23 1956	June 16 1956	June 25 1955
Barrows and gilts –									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	15.05	16.02	19.60	14.14	15.03	18.15	15.18	16.02	20.10
2 and 3 180-200	16.01	17.04	21.25	15.67	16.43	19.49	16.20	17.35	21.80
200-220	16.35	17.21	21.30	16.16	16.87	19.76	16.22	17.31	21.82
220-240	16.28	17.05	21.15	16.00	16.61	19.38	16.06	17.08	21.68
240-270	15.88	16.70	20.28	15.46	16.11	18.76	15.72	16.72	20.85
270-300	15.60	16.34	19.32	14.85	15.56	17.99	15.28	16.15	20.48
Sows –									
Choice 300-330#	14.78	15.28	18.10	14.05	14.76	16.21	14.22	15.02	18.35
360-400	13.70	14.28	16.22	12.99	13.71	14.96	13.08	14.08	16.58
450-550	12.32	12.95	14.20	11.23	12.27	13.08	11.80	12.58	14.80
Pigs (Feeder) –									
Gd. & Ch. All wts.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

	Omaha			St. Louis National Stock Yards			Sioux City		
Barrows and gilts –									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	--	--	--	15.64	16.62	21.05	--	--	--
2 and 3 180-200	16.42	17.12	20.80	16.31	17.28	21.62	15.78	16.52	20.05
200-220	16.42	17.12	20.80	16.31	17.30	21.60	16.30	17.06	20.55
220-240	16.42	17.12	20.80	16.28	17.20	21.28	16.25	17.01	20.42
240-270	16.08	16.88	19.52	15.84	16.88	20.58	15.98	16.55	19.58
270-300	15.62	16.50	18.25	15.25	16.28	19.41	15.44	15.98	18.20
Sows –									
Choice 300-330#	14.68	15.55	16.78	14.10	14.55	16.95	14.52	15.40	16.68
360-400	13.45	14.25	14.58	13.65	14.15	15.92	12.95	14.20	14.72
450-550	11.98	12.80	12.88	12.32	13.00	14.32	11.50	12.75	13.20
Pigs (Feeder) –									
Gd. & Ch. All wts.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

	S. St. Paul			Baltimore			N. Portland		
Barrows and gilts –									
U.S.No.1, 160-180#	16.22	16.85	20.28	d16.78	17.92	22.50	d18.25	18.31	22.50
2 and 3 180-200	16.48	17.10	20.60	d17.28	18.40	22.94	d18.84	19.00	23.31
200-220	16.48	17.10	20.60	d17.28	18.40	22.91	d18.84	19.00	23.31
220-240	16.48	17.10	20.08	d17.28	18.30	22.47	d18.59	18.88	22.88
240-270	16.12	16.72	19.15	d16.65	17.80	21.69	d17.23	17.38	21.25
270-300	15.42	15.98	18.02	d15.90	17.05	19.94	d16.38	16.38	20.25
Sows –									
Choice 300-330#	14.28	14.90	17.15	d12.80	13.82	17.03	d15.50	15.50	16.75
360-400	13.02	13.50	14.88	d12.80	13.82	17.03	d13.75	13.75	15.25
450-550	11.68	12.45	12.60	d11.32	12.32	14.91	d12.25	12.25	14.25
Pigs (Feeder) –									
Gd. & Ch. All wts.	14.65	15.50	18.95	--	--	--	--	--	--

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

	Week ended	Chicago	St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards	Kansas City	Omaha	Sioux City	S. St. Joseph	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	8 mkts. combined
AVERAGE COST -					Dollars per 100 pounds					
Barrows and gilts	June 23,1956	15.94	16.13	16.16	16.16	16.03	16.23	15.85	16.08	16.07
	June 16,1956	16.84	16.94	16.73	16.85	16.75	16.83	16.38	17.08	16.83
	June 25,1955	20.59	21.08	20.13	19.98	19.95	20.31	19.57	21.51	20.48
Sows	June 23,1956	13.34	13.28	13.17	13.80	13.47	13.64	13.36	12.49	13.39
	June 16,1956	13.91	13.71	13.88	14.41	14.25	14.33	13.88	13.27	13.99
	June 25,1955	16.09	15.95	15.13	15.23	15.51	15.17	15.12	15.82	15.48
AVERAGE WEIGHT -					Pounds					
Barrows and gilts	June 23,1956	228	215	217	222	220	216	226	221	220
	June 16,1956	228	215	216	225	226	217	224	222	221
	June 25,1955	236	212	220	233	233	218	227	218	224
Sows	June 23,1956	395	386	401	355	350	366	354	423	371
	June 16,1956	398	394	414	362	365	368	359	432	378
	June 25,1955	386	406	424	365	354	363	350	426	369
NUMBER OF HEAD -										
Barrows and gilts	June 23,1956	20127	44221	9371	19675	12350	20558	21385	31938	179625
	June 16,1956	23458	49679	11140	21082	13323	22977	25820	29787	197266
	June 25,1955	23118	28960	5838	18670	11648	17034	20723	21403	147394
Sows	June 23,1956	11532	4753	935	12695	9548	3531	12749	4847	60590
	June 16,1956	10627	4894	1017	10704	8121	3345	12845	4611	56164
	June 25,1955	13337	3047	680	17015	12698	3994	17632	4348	72751
SOWS					Percentage of total					
	June 23,1956	36	10	9	39	44	15	37	13	25
	June 16,1956	31	9	8	34	38	13	33	13	22
	June 25,1955	37	10	10	48	52	19	46	17	33

1/ Weighted average.

WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

	Hog products 1/	Hog prices 2/	Gross spread or margin 3/
June 23, 1956	$18.06	$ 16.35	$1.71
June 16, 1956	18.89	17.21	1.68
June 25, 1955	22.04	21.30	.74

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U.S.No.1, 2 and 3 hogs, 200-220# wt.Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

Week ended	Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds	Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel	Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts
June 23, 1956	15.94	151.8	10.5
June 16, 1956	16.84	154.7	10.9
June 25, 1955	20.59	147.9	13.9

1/ Simple average price.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

		Chicago	Omaha	Kansas City	Fort Worth	Denver	Ogden & North Salt Lake	South San Francisco
LAMBS (SPRING) -								
Choice and Prime	June 23, 1956	23.10	20.80	21.08	--	21.70	20.90	22.06
	June 16, 1956	26.65	23.92	23.85	--	25.20	23.50	24.88
	June 25, 1955	24.05	23.50	22.90	--	22.82	21.90	20.75
Good and Choice	June 23, 1956	21.50	19.80	18.95	19.50	20.22	19.65	21.00
	June 16, 1956	24.45	22.78	21.48	22.00	23.55	22.25	23.75
	June 25, 1955	22.90	22.30	21.38	20.60	20.80	20.55	19.50
EWES (SHORN) -								
Good and Choice	June 23, 1956	4.00	4.12	3.82	--	5.45	4.75	3.50
	June 16, 1956	4.65	4.25	4.00	--	5.60	5.00	3.50
	June 25, 1955	5.20	4.75	4.75	--	5.40	4.75	3.75
Cull and Utility	June 23, 1956	3.00	3.12	3.08	--	3.58	3.00	3.00
	June 16, 1956	3.70	3.08	3.38	--	3.58	3.00	3.00
	June 25, 1955	4.05	3.62	3.75	--	3.42	3.00	3.00
FEEDER LAMBS -								
Good and Choice	June 23, 1956	--	20.00	--	14.60	17.35	17.25	15.75
	June 16, 1956	--	20.20	--	14.85	18.25	--	20.25
	June 25, 1955	--	--	--	15.30	--	18.48	16.50

WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 509

$7.50-11.50. Choice vealers and calves up to 300# brought $19.00-22.00 at most terminals, reaching $23.50 at Ogden. Good and Choice stocker and feeder steers up to 1000# sold from $16.00-18.00, some fleshy steers to $19.00 at Denver. Few Good and Choice stock steer calves $17.50-19.00.

The relative scarcity of Choice steers in feedlots made for a fully steady trade with a smaller volume than last week selling direct at $20.50-22.50. Good fed steers $19.00-20.50, several loads Standard and Good grass steers up to 1100# $17.50-19.00. Good and Choice stocker and feeder steers under 900# sold off the range fully steady at $16.50-18.25.

U. S. No. 1, 2 and 3 barrows and gilts 180-240# sold at North Portland late at $18.50-19.65, $17.50-18.25 at Los Angeles; $17.50 at S. San Francisco; $17.00-17.50 at Spokane; $16.75-17.25 at Ogden; $16.00-16.50 at Denver and $18.00 Tuesday at Stockton. Choice and Prime slaughter spring lambs sold early in the week at $22.50-24.50, but late sales $20.00-22.00, Good and Choice $19.00-21.00.

NEW YORK WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Western Dressed Fresh Meats

Normal supplies of Western dressed steer beef, moderate to barely normal stocks of veal, calf and lamb, along with moderate supplies of cow beef and fresh pork proved ample for a generally slow demand at wholesale centers in the Metropolitan area. Action by retailers was confined mainly to essential needs in fresh meats. The week featured lower prices in all divisions except cow beef. Compared with the previous Friday; Steer beef weak to $2.25 lower; cow beef unchanged; veal weak to $4.00 lower; calf $1.00-6.00 off; spring lamb $8.00-10.00 lower; pork loins $5.00 or more lower, and other fresh pork cuts weak to $3.00 lower.

Choice 700-900# steer carcasses predominated, with a moderate showing of Good and Prime grades. Carcass realizations were sharply down for the week, with the full decline on Choice grade, but wholesalers were able to market high-Good selections at steady prices. The market on practically all primal cuts worked lower, with declines on hindquarters, rounds, hips, ribs and arm chucks. Demand for short loins was fairly dependable, but sellers yielded to lower bids in instances. Relatively small supplies of cow beef moved out with little difficulty and prices held steady to strong.

Moderate unloads of veal and calf assumed normal proportions late in a slow trade. Calf supplies were increased and proved burdensome. Such kinds failed to clear, even at sharp discounts. Spring lamb supplies consisted mainly of lightweight plain carcasses. Price drops were progressive and the trade at the close, pretty much of a peddling affair. Lower grade offerings along with foresaddles and relative cuts bore the brunt of a declining market.

Virtually all primal cuts of fresh pork closed lower. Outlet for loins was particularly narrow, and a carryover was apparent unless clearances could be effected through drastic price concessions.

Locally Dressed Fresh Meats

Movement of steer cuts both kosher and non-kosher was generally fair, but demand in other divisions failed to keep abreast of the supply. The general market tone lacked stability and declines were recorded in all divisions. The steer supply was normal on all weights and grades. Choice 700-900# offerings, however, predominated. In view of the slow action at wholesale levels, sellers yielded to lower bids on virtually all primal cuts. Outlet for ribs and arm chucks was less dependable than during the previous week and prominent declines were shown on these. Hindquarter prices were fully $2.00 or more lower, with heavyweight selections off most. Demand narrowed in the kosher divisions after fair action early, and late sales of kosher steer forequarters and primal cuts were about $2.00 below the high time of the week.

The practical top on a handful of Prime veal offerings was off about $3.00, but declines of around $8.00 were recorded on lower grades. Calf hindsaddles were liberally shown and these were exceptionally hard to move. Prices followed a downward course in the lamb division and closed sharply lower. Daily kills were made up largely of lightweight carcasses, many of these Utility to low-Good grade. Premium prices were paid for carcasses of cutting weights and relative wholesale cuts, but this was no criterion of the general market. The market on kosher spring lamb foresaddles worked sharply lower, with sales late in the week under pressure and the bulk off at least $8.00 or more.

A normal supply of fresh pork cuts sold under pressure on all sessions. Complete clearance of loins appeared doubtful, and the market close was fully $5.00 or more below the opening session. Other cuts sold weak to slightly lower, at the close, with clearance barely complete.

CHICAGO WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

The fresh meat trade was slow throughout, accompanied by lower prices in all divisions, lamb and pork loins 8-16# suffering most decline. Moderate to normal offerings in all classes proved fully adequate to slightly excessive in view of the narrow demand. Hot humid weather in the Chicago area contributed greatly to a curtailed consumer demand for most fresh meat. The local lamb supply ran mainly to spring lambs. Good and Choice grades comprised bulk of the beef and veal supplies. Fresh offerings in most classes in the opening sessions were increased by a carryover from the previous week. Squarecut chucks were slowest of beef cuts, while Good to Prime ribs 30# and down moved out readily. Slightly higher carcass beef prices late in the period were credited to reduced offerings rather than expanded demand. Shipping outlets for carcass beef were rather narrow the entire week. Lamb sellers encountered most resistance to lamb legs, and 12-16# pork loins were hard to move. Spring and old crop lamb closed $10.00 to $13.00 lower than Thursday two weeks ago, this being one of the largest declines in this division for a two-week period in recent years. Compared to last Thursday's close: Prime and Standard beef nominally steady, Good and Choice grades $1.00-1.50 lower; veal $1.00-2.00 lower; spring and old crop lamb $5.00-7.00 lower; pork loins 8-16# $6.00-7.00 lower; Boston butts 4-8# $1.50-2.00 lower; spareribs 3# and down steady. Choice and Prime squarecut beef chucks cleared at $23.00-25.00; comparable rounds $40.00-43.00; Prime loins $80.00-85.00, Choice loins $65.00-68.00; Choice and Prime kosher style beef chucks $26.00-28.00. Choice and and Prime spring lamb 30-55# cleared at $43.00-46.00, 55-65# $42.00-45.00; lamb hindsaddles and legs $55.00-60.00, and $45.00-50.00, respectively.

PACIFIC COAST WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Moderate supplies steer carcasses were fully adequate to spots excessive for a narrow demand due mainly to increased prices and warm weather. Calf was moderate to liberal with a larger percent of Commercial at Los Angeles than previously. Spring lamb carcasses were more than adequate in Northern California and the Pacific Northwest and about even for the demand at Los Angeles except for Good being excessive and burdensome. Fresh pork continued liberal at all points with loins the most excessive and cured pork slightly excessive at Los Angeles. Trading was generally slow on all classes with buyers cautious and mostly purchasing for immediate needs. Prices compared with last week's close: Steer beef uneven, steady to $1.00 higher at San Francisco and Portland and $1.00 lower at Los Angeles; cow beef steady to $1.00 lower; calf and veal weak to $2.00 lower; spring lamb $1.00-3.00 lower; fresh pork loins $1.00-4.00 lower; shoulders steady to $1.00 lower at Los Angeles and $1.00 higher at Portland; smoked meats mostly steady except bacon instances $2.00 higher and smoked skinned hams $1.00 lower at Los Angeles; lard steady to 25¢ lower.

Choice steer carcasses under 700# bulked from $34.00-38.00, 700-800# $33.00-35.00; Good 500-700# $30.00-35.00, few to $36.00; Standard $28.00-34.00. Commercial cow cashed from $24.00-30.00 which included some Standard at San Francisco and in the Pacific Northwest; Utility $22.00-27.00; Canner and Cutter $19.00-24.00; Utility and Commercial bull $27.00-31.00. Good and Choice calf under 300# sold from $31.00-40.00; Commercial $26.00-33.00; Good and Choice veal under 150# $33.00-42.00; Commercial down to $28.00 at San Francisco. Choice and Prime under 55# spring lamb brought $42.00-52.00. Pork loins under 16# ranged from $42.00-51.00; fresh skinned hams $48.00-53.00; shoulders under 16# $28.00-38.00; spareribs under 3# $43.00-50.00; smoked skinned hams under 18# $51.00-58.00; slab bacon under 10# $30.00-44.00; sliced 1# packages of bacon $42.00-50.00; smoked picnics under 8# $30.00-36.00; lard in 1# cartons $14.50-20.00.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification		New York			Chicago			San Francisco		
		June			June			June		
		23 1956	16 1956	25 1955	23 1956	16 1956	25 1955	23 1956	16 1956	25 1955
Beef -										
Steer -										
Prime	600-700#	38.30	39.25	--	37.00	37.40	40.60	--	--	--
	700-800	37.65	38.25	41.10	37.00	37.40	41.20	--	--	--
Choice	500-600	--	--	--	34.65	36.05	37.65	37.50	36.50	41.00
	600-700	36.00	37.62	39.05	34.65	36.05	36.35	36.00	35.00	40.00
Good	400-600	33.60	34.25	36.70	33.00	34.00	36.00	34.00	34.00	38.00
Standard	350-600	--	--	--	31.25	31.25	--	31.00	31.00	--
Cow, all wts. -										
Commercial		27.90	28.00	30.70	--	--	--	26.50	26.50	30.00
Utility		26.50	26.50	27.70	--	--	--	24.10	25.00	26.50
Veal -										
Prime	90-120#	40.50	40.50	41.40	39.50	40.90	41.50	--	--	--
Choice	90-120	34.50	35.50	37.00	34.90	35.90	37.00	--	--	--
Good	90-120	31.70	33.00	33.80	32.90	33.90	35.00	37.00	37.00	39.00
Spring lamb -										
Prime	30-45#	45.60	53.80	50.60	47.40	53.30	51.30	--	--	--
	45-55	47.30	55.40	48.70	47.40	53.30	50.20	47.80	49.00	42.00
Choice	45-55	47.30	55.40	48.70	47.40	53.30	50.20	47.80	49.00	42.00
	55-65	46.70	54.90	--	46.40	51.60	--	45.80	47.00	40.00
Good, all wts.		38.30	45.40	43.50	43.30	48.05	45.30	43.70	44.00	38.00
Pork - Fresh -										
Loins	8-12#	42.30	46.20	59.50	39.75	45.60	59.60	48.80	52.80	62.00
	12-16	40.70	44.10	55.90	37.50	43.10	56.50	48.80	52.80	59.00
Butts	4-8	37.40	39.40	39.90	33.75	35.40	41.20	42.00	42.00	45.00
Pork - Cured -										
Hams, smk. skd. -										
	12-16#	52.00	52.00	53.50	54.90	54.90	56.15	57.50	57.50	59.00
	16-18	46.50	46.50	50.50	55.10	55.50	55.35	55.50	55.50	55.00
	18-20	--	--	--	55.05	54.65	54.75	--	--	--
Bacon, smk. - slab -										
	6-8#	--	--	--	35.45	35.55	49.40	42.00	40.00	52.00
	8-10	34.50	32.00	43.50	33.45	33.55	46.65	40.00	38.00	50.00
Sliced, 1# pkg.		42.50	42.50	51.50	42.60	42.35	54.70	46.00	46.00	53.00
Picnics, smk. -										
	4-8#	30.50	29.50	33.50	33.55	34.30	39.20	32.00	32.00	36.00
Backs, D.S.	16-20	15.50	16.50	15.00	12.50	12.65	12.20	--	--	--
Lard, 1# cartons -										
Refined		16.50	17.25	16.50	15.05	15.25	15.35	19.00	19.00	18.50
Substitutes		--	--	--	31.25	31.25	28.00	--	--	--

Note: Quotations at New York exclude locally dressed meats.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

A larger volume of greasy domestic, worsted wools sold in the Boston market as approximately thirty-five cars were moved. Prices held steady to firm as integrated mills were the main buyers. There was more interest in fine and half blood grades this week. The woolen wool section of the market continued rather slow at prices about unchanged compared to a week ago.

A moderate to substantial weight of wool was purchased in Texas while top makers and dealers again were active in the Northern Territory States. Country buyers continued to purchase medium grade wools in the fleece wool States and were turning attention to fine wool.

The Australian auctions will close out the year in another week as Japan continued to dominate with the Continent and Bradford supporting and prices advanced about 5 percent. The South American markets remained quiet.

Fleece Wools - Graded fine staple Delaine sold around $1.32 clean basis, while graded fine, average to good French combing fleeces brought $1.13 and 56/58s good French combing and staple moved around $1.00. Graded 50/54s staple fleece wool around 52¢ in the grease sold in a range from 97¢-$1.03 but mostly $1.02-1.03 clean basis. Medium 3/8s baby combing fleece wool around 50¢ grease basis brought 94¢ and 96¢ clean while medium seedy and burry Ohio fleeces moved at 45½¢ grease basis.

Country buyers were paying 42-43¢ for fine wool and from 43-45¢ grease basis to the growers.

Territory Wools - Graded fine good French combing and staple territory wool sold at $1.30-1.32 clean basis, while graded 60/62s brought $1.18-1.20 and 50/54s staple territory wool moved at $1.04 and $1.06 clean. Original bag bulk fine good French combing and staple Roswell wool sold at $1.30 clean basis.

Fine and half blood, good French combing and staple clips in the Northern territory States cost around $1.17 clean basis on the core delivered Boston.

Texas Wools - Turnover of Texas wool in the local market was very quiet. Graded good French combing and staple Delaine type, 12 months 64/70s wool in Texas was estimated to cost around $1.50 clean basis, delivered Boston while good French combing and staple wool in original bags were estimated around $1.40 plus and good to average French combing at $1.30-1.35.

Mohair - There was some contracting of fall mohair around 80-81½¢ for adult and $1.01½ for kid mohair to the warehouse. The local market remained dormant.

Sales of CCC Wools - The Commodity Credit Corporation announced on June 21, 1956 that approximately 875,000 pounds C.C.C.-owned wools were sold from bids received on a total of about 4,370,000 pounds. The principal grades, quantities and sales price ranged (before discounts, if any) follow:

	Pounds	Price Range
Graded territory fine staple and good French	60,000	$1.3025
" " " average and good French	60,000	1.2525
" " 1/2 blood sh. French and clothing	172,553X	$ .95 -1.0126
O. B. territory fine av. and gd. French (25% 60s)	20,954	1.14
" " Texas 8 months, best length	251,675X	1.051-1.2035
Burry and seedy 3/8s and 1/4 blood	14,551X	.72

X - No more of this class now left in inventory.

The 1956 spring pig crop totaled 53,085,000 head, a decline of 8 percent from the spring of 1955, according to the Crop Reporting Board. The number of sows farrowing this spring totaled 7,650,000 head which was also 8 percent less than the 8,359,000 sows farrowing last spring. The number of pigs saved per litter was 6.94, establishing a new record for spring farrowing and compares with 6.90 pigs per litter in 1955. Reports on breeding intentions indicate a total of 5,163,000 sows to farrow this fall. This would be 7 percent less than the number farrowing last fall. If these intentions materialize and the number of pigs saved per litter equals the 10-year average, with an allowance for upward trend, the 1956 fall pig crop would be about 35 million head. The combined spring and fall pig crops for 1956 would then be about 88 million head. This would be 8 percent less than last year and only slightly below the 1945-54 average.

The number of hogs 6 months old and over on farms and ranches June 1 was 1 percent below a year ago.

This report is based on a survey of 155,000 farm and ranch operators. These returns were obtained largely in cooperation with the Post Office Department through rural mail carriers.

Spring Pig Crop: The number of pigs saved in the spring of 1956 (December 1, 1955 to June 1, 1956) is estimated at 53,085,000 head. This is 4,605,000 head or 8 percent less than the spring crop last year and 2 percent below the 10-year average.

All regions showed a decline in spring pigs from a year ago except the South Atlantic and South Central regions. The North Atlantic was down 3 percent; East North Central down 4 percent; West North Central down 15 percent; and the West was down 9 percent. The South Atlantic was up 5 percent and the South Central was up 6 percent.

The number of sows farrowed in the spring of 1956 is estimated at 7,650,000 head, 8 percent less than last year and the 10-year average. The 1956 spring farrowings were 6 percent lower than indicated by farmers' reports on intentions last December. All regions, except the South Atlantic, showed fewer sows farrowing than intended last December. The percentages that the 1956 spring farrowings are of 1955 as now estimated and the spring intentions as reported last December are as follows: North Atlantic, 99 percent now and 101 percent last December; East North Central, 96 and 100; West North Central, 84 and 93; South Atlantic, 104 and 103; South Central, 107 and 111; and West, 92 and 98.

The number of pigs saved per litter during the past spring was 6.94, a record high, and compares with the previous high of 6.90 in 1955 and 1954. Bigger litter sizes in the central and western Corn Belt States were responsible for the higher average this year.

The trend toward earlier farrowings continues as December, January and February account for a greater share of the total spring crop than in earlier years. The number of sows farrowing each month during the 1956 spring season and the percentage changed from the same month of the previous season are as follows: December 1955, 400,000 sows, up 30 percent; January 1956, 723,000 sows, up 7 percent; February 1,414,000, down 7 percent; March 2,151,000, down 7 percent; April 1,917,000, down 15 percent, and May 1,045,000, down 19 percent.

Fall 1956 Intentions: Reports on breeding intentions indicate that 5,163,000 sows will farrow in the fall of 1956. If these intentions are realized, the number of sows farrowing this fall (June 1-December 1) would be 7 percent less than during the fall of 1955. Compared with last year, all regions except the South Atlantic showed a decline in the number of sows intended for fall farrowing. The North Atlantic region showed a decline of 11 percent, the East North Central was down 6 percent; West North Central down 11 percent; South Central down 3 percent; and the West down 10 percent, while the South Atlantic showed no change from a year ago.

These estimated changes from last year are based on breeding intentions reported by farmers about June 1.

If fall intentions materialize and the number of pigs saved per litter equals the 10-year average, with an allowance for upward trend, the 1956 fall pig crop would be about 35 million head. This would be nearly 3 million pigs less than last year but about 0.8 million more than the 10-year average.

The combined pig crops for 1956 would be around 88 million head, which is 8 percent less than in 1955 and is only slightly less than average.

Hogs Over 6 Months Old on Farms June 1: The number of hogs over 6 months old (including sows) on farms June 1 this year was 15,573,000 head compared with 15,756,000 last year, a decrease of 1 percent from June 1, 1955. The 1955 fall pig crop which makes up most of the June 1 inventory was 12 percent larger than in 1954. The cutback in hog inventories to year earlier levels resulted in a 17 percent increase in total commercial hog slaughter from January through April compared with the same period in 1955. Federally inspected hog slaughter in May was up 17 percent.

Sows held for fall farrowing represent a smaller proportion of the June 1 inventory of hogs over 6 months old than last year. Thus, the market supply of barrows and gilts over 6 months old on June 1 was slightly larger than a year ago.

HOGS OVER 6 MONTHS OLD ON FARMS, JUNE 1, 1947-56
UNITED STATES AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES

Year	United States	North Central States	Year	United States	North Central States
	1,000 head	1,000 head		1,000 head	1,000 head
1947.....	23,551	15,197	1952....	20,938	13,580
1948.....	22,830	14,245	1953....	16,407	10,482
1949.....	21,741	13,620	1954....	14,951	10,154
1950.....	21,608	13,637	1955....	15,756	10,618
1951.....	22,856	14,973	1956....	15,573	9,966

SOWS FARROWING

Division	Spring (Dec. 1 - June 1)				Fall (June 1 - Dec. 1)			
	1945-54 av. (000)	1955 (000)	1956 (000)	1956 as % of 1955	1945-54: av. (000)	1955 (000)	1956 1/ (000)	1956 as % of 1955
N. Atlantic.....	152	139	138	99	123	119	107	89
N. C. Eastern.....	2,286	2,404	2,300	96	1,698	1,857	1,746	94
N. C. Western.....	4,112	4,247	3,577	84	1,856	2,230	1,986	89
N. Central.....	6,398	6,651	5,877	88	3,554	4,087	3,732	91
S. Atlantic.....	628	618	645	104	545	498	498	100
S. Central.....	924	780	834	107	822	730	705	97
Western.....	224	171	156	92	164	135	121	90
United States.....	8,327	8,359	7,650	92	5,208	5,569	5,163	93

1/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions reports.

PIGS SAVED

Division	Spring (Dec. 1-June 1)							Fall (June 1-Dec. 1) Pigs saved	
	1945-54 av. (000)	1955 (000)	1956 (000)	1956 as % of 1955	Pigs per litter 1945-54 av.	1955	1956	1945-54 av. (000)	1955 (000)
N. Atlantic.....	1,006	937	909	97	6.6	6.68	6.58	833	809
N. C. Eastern...	15,143	16,678	16,006	96	6.63	6.94	6.96	11,379	12,749
N. C. Western...	26,714	29,630	25,314	85	6.51	6.98	7.08	12,260	15,233
N. Central.....	41,857	46,308	41,320	89	6.55	6.96	7.03	23,638	27,982
S. Atlantic.....	3,905	4,097	4,287	105	6.22	6.63	6.65	3,452	3,310
S. Central.....	5,734	5,220	5,545	106	6.24	6.69	6.65	5,235	4,908
Western.....	1,421	1,128	1,024	91	6.35	6.63	6.55	1,062	905
United States...	53,923	57,690	53,085	92	6.48	6.90	6.94	34,219	37,914

SOWS FARROWING, PIGS PER LITTER, AND PIGS SAVED, 1952-56, FOR THE UNITED STATES

Year	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per litter		Pigs saved		
	Spring (Dec. 1-June 1)	Fall (June 1-Dec. 1)	Spring (Dec. 1-June 1)	Fall (June 1-Dec. 1)	Spring (Dec. 1-June 1)	Fall (June 1-Dec. 1)	Year (Dec. 1-Dec. 1)
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Number	Number	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1952.....	8,311	5,067	6.63	6.65	55,135	33,694	88,829
1953.....	7,045	4,479	6.80	6.69	47,940	29,974	77,914
1954.....	7,669	5,014	6.89	6.78	52,852	33,978	86,830
1955.....	8,359	5,569	6.90	6.81	57,690	37,914	95,604
1956	7,650	1/ 5,163	6.94	2/ 6.80	53,085	35,000	88,085

1/ Fall farrowing indicated from breeding intentions reports. 2/ Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated number of fall pigs. Number rounded to nearest 500,000 head.

Crop Reporting Board.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS OF MEATS AND LARD, MAY 31, 1956

Stocks of all red meats were down from a month earlier. Holdings of beef were reduced from 172 million to 157 million pounds during May while pork holdings fell from 510 million to 459 million pounds. Other red meats, veal, lamb and mutton, etc., were down 9 million pounds to 169 million. May 31 warehouse stocks of beef were 4 percent above average for the date and 32 percent greater than in 1955 while pork holdings were 14 percent under average and 4 percent less than a year earlier. Over-all supply of red meats, 786 million pounds, compares with 740 million in 1955 and 829 million the May 31 average.

UNITED STATES STORAGE HOLDINGS OF MEATS AND LARD, MAY 31, 1956 WITH COMPARISONS
(Includes holdings in public, private and semi-private cold storage houses and meat packing plants)

Commodity	May 31 1956	Apr. 30 1956	May 31 1955	May 31 1951-55 av.	May 31, 1956 as % of Apr. 1956	May 1955	May 31 5-yr.av.
BEEF:	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.			
Frozen.	148,801	162,237	111,175	141,843	92	134	105
In cure, cured & smkd.	8,616	9,507	8,173	9,130	91	105	94
Total.	157,417	171,744	119,348	150,973	92	132	104
PORK:							
Frozen.	350,686	396,590	344,034	356,368	88	102	98
Dry salt, in cure and cured.	25,589	25,415	33,347	44,270	101	77	58
Other in cure, cured and smoked	83,133	88,225	99,647	132,427	94	83	63
Total.	459,408	510,230	477,028	533,065	90	96	86
OTHER MEATS AND MEAT PRODUCTS:							
Sausage & sausage room products. . .	15,342	15,904	13,306	15,468	96	115	99
Frozen lamb and mutton	8,444	8,976	9,957	10,963	94	85	77
Frozen veal	14,185	16,241	11,245	11,104	87	126	128
Canned meats and meat products. . .	76,893	79,124	55,165	53,041	97	139	145
All edible offal. .	54,604	58,569	53,692	54,460	93	102	100
Total other meats & meat products. . .	169,468	178,814	143,365	145,036	95	118	117
Total all meats. .	786,293	860,788	739,741	829,074	91	106	95
Lard, rendered & refined 1/	2/	226,017	144,149	146,105	--	--	--
GOVERNMENT HOLDINGS 3/							
Pork.	11,734	12,320	10,231	2/	95	115	--
Beef.	4,526	4,817	6,152	2/	94	74	--

1/ In dry and cold storage as reported by Bureau of Census.
2/ Not available.
3/ Government holdings are included in the totals and consist of reported stocks held by U.S.D.A., the Armed Services and other Government agencies.

UNITED STATES FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

	May		January - May		Percentage May 1956 of	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	May 1955	5-yr. May av.
Number slaughtered under Federal inspection: (thousands of head) -						
Cattle	1,646	1,560	7,937	7,370	106	130
Calves	606	588	3,044	2,923	103	123
Hogs	4,875	4,164	29,081	24,284	117	118
Sheep and lambs.	1,063	1,228	5,900	5,955	87	109
Average live weight: (pounds)						
Cattle	997.7	961.0	1009.9	974.2	104	102
Steers 1/	1032.3	1002.0	--	--	103	103
Heifers 1/	866.5	838.3	--	--	103	104
Cows 1/	979.2	938.3	--	--	104	102
Calves	228.9	219.4	211.0	202.7	104	108
Hogs	239.7	251.9	234.8	243.9	95	97
Sheep and lambs.	93.0	96.5	99.6	100.5	96	96
Average cost to packers: (dollars per 100 pounds)						
Cattle	16.76	17.47	16.00	17.82	96	76
Steers 1/	18.92	20.78	--	--	91	73
Heifers 1/	18.75	20.16	--	--	93	75
Cows 1/	11.33	11.47	--	--	99	69
Calves	17.99	17.58	17.34	17.78	102	79
Hogs	15.56	16.37	13.18	16.43	95	75
Sheep and lambs.	20.74	17.74	19.05	19.78	117	90
Dressing yields: (per 100 pounds live weight)						
Cattle	56.8	55.6	56.4	55.3	--	--
Calves	55.8	55.6	55.7	55.6	--	--
Hogs 2/	76.2	76.5	76.2	76.9	--	--
Sheep and lambs.	48.1	48.8	48.0	48.3	--	--
Lard per 100#	14.9	14.9	15.0	14.7	--	--
Lard per animal.	35.8	37.6	35.3	36.0	--	--
Average dressed weight: (pounds)						
Cattle	566.7	534.3	569.1	538.6	--	--
Calves	127.7	122.0	117.6	112.7	--	--
Hogs	182.7	192.7	179.0	187.6	--	--
Sheep and lambs.	44.7	47.1	47.8	48.5	--	--
Condemnations 3/: (number of head)						
Cattle	6,317	6,309	31,544	31,734	--	--
Calves	2,125	1,864	19,143	16,596	--	--
Hogs	10,667	9,028	57,410	47,566	--	--
Sheep and lambs.	5,687	5,382	20,422	18,756	--	--
Total dressed weight - Excluding condemned: (thousands of pounds)						
Beef	929,102	830,123	4,499,111	3,952,830	112	134
Veal	77,131	71,451	355,714	327,659	108	132
Pork (carcass wt.)	888,730	800,728	5,193,855	4,547,558	111	114
Lamb and mutton.	47,254	57,606	281,278	287,821	82	103
Total 4/	1,942,218	1,759,908	10,329,958	9,115,868	110	123
Pork, excl. lard	650,629	587,211	3,792,365	3,355,682	111	114
Lard production 5/	174,120	156,320	1,025,163	871,913	111	115
Rendered pork fat	8,926	8,643	50,089	43,491	103	112

1/ Also included with cattle. 2/ Subtract 7.0 to obtain reported packer style average. 3/ Partly estimated. 4/ Totals based on unrounded numbers. 5/ Includes rendered pork fat.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
3 1262 08734 4619

CLASSIFICATION OF LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION 1/

	Number (000 omitted)				Percent			
	May 1956	Apr. 1956	Jan.-May 1956	May 1955	May 1956	Apr. 1956	Jan.-May 1956	May 1955
Cattle:								
Steers	969	899	4,460	810	58.9	58.2	56.2	51.9
Heifers	202	227	1,174	201	12.3	14.7	14.8	12.9
Cows	439	391	2,162	509	26.7	25.3	27.2	32.6
Bulls & stags	35	28	141	41	2.1	1.8	1.8	2.6
Total 2/	1,645	1,545	7,937	1,561	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Canners & cutters 3/	225	193	1,074	257	13.7	12.5	13.5	16.5
Hogs:								
Sows	663	425	2,176	625	13.6	8.1	7.5	15.0
Barrows & gilts	4,188	4,800	26,760	3,515	85.9	91.4	92.0	84.4
Stags & boars	24	26	145	25	.5	.5	.5	.6
Total 2/	4,875	5,251	29,081	4,165	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sheep and Lambs:								
Lambs & yearlings	993	1,089	5,707	1,166	93.4	96.4	96.7	94.9
Sheep	70	41	194	63	6.6	3.6	3.3	5.1
Total 2/	1,063	1,130	5,901	1,229	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Based on reports from packers. 2/ Totals based on rounded numbers.
3/ Included in cattle classification.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

Penalty for private use to avoid payment of postage $300.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Form AMS-6/26/56
Permit 1001.